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**Contact:** [mediarequest@mcsso.maricopa.gov](mailto:mediarequest@mcsso.maricopa.gov)

### **Maricopa County Sheriff's Office Busts Illegal THC Vape Cartridges Operation**

Detectives, operating as part of the Maricopa County Drug Suppression Task Force (MCDST), in conjunction with Phoenix Officers, served a search warrant at a residence in North Phoenix on September 12, 2019. Two individuals were arrested, and detectives also seized over \$380,000 worth of illegal drugs, firearms and cash.

Detectives received information on the illegal marijuana and THC vape cartridges operation on a Phoenix residence located at 2318 West Via Perugia. MCSO detectives, with the assistance of Phoenix PD, conducted surveillance on the residence for several days.

On September 12, 2019 Phoenix officers, with the assistance of MCDST detectives, served the warrant on this residence. Two suspects, Tucker Reece 23-year-old and Kolby Stevens 23-year-old, were located inside the residence and taken into custody without incident. Detectives also located Approximately 1,100 "Dank" brand packaged vape cartridges and 8 jars of narcotic distillate. These cartridges have been located throughout the country and have been associated with recent vaping deaths, were being manufactured in the residence. Base on the equipment and the products located inside the residence, detectives believe this location was an apparent Closed Loop BHO Manufacturing Lab.

"We are focused on protecting the young adults in our community," said Sheriff Penzone. "We will not tolerate criminal activity targeting adolescence for profit and at the expense of health," the Sheriff continued. "I would like to thank the Maricopa County Drug Suppression Task Force and our partners at the Black Mountain Precinct at the Phoenix Police Department for their collaborative partnership in getting these criminals off the street," the Sheriff concluded.

Seizures:   Approx.   1,100 1-gram THC vape carts (approx. value \$55,000)  
              8 Jars Narcotic Distillate (approx. value \$300,000)  
              300 pounds mid-grade marijuana (used to manufacture BHO, approx. value \$30,000)  
              2 ounces of Shatter (approx. value \$1000)  
              Closed Loop BHO Manufacturing Lab  
              Approx. \$3000 Cash  
              Rifle, Shotgun, 4 handguns 2 vehicles, boat and Can-Am ATV

Tucker and Kolby were booked into the Fourth Avenue Jail for sale of narcotic drugs C2F, possession of narcotic drugs C2F, possession of manufacturing equipment for narcotic drugs C3F, possession of marijuana for sale C3F and possession of a weapon in a drug offense C4F.